

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communication filed 1/11/08.

Response to Amendment

2. Examiner acknowledges the amendment filed 1/11/08. Examiner withdraws the 35 USC 102 and 103 rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-6, 7 and 8 (renumbered claims 1-6, 8 and 7, respectively) are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance for independent claims 1 and 7. Regarding claim 1 the prior art fails to disclose forward end overlap is the sum of an overlap margin for operation processing and the maximum cell pitch of a plurality of cell pitches in cell to cell comparison inspection, and said rear end overlap is an overlap margin for operation. These features in combination with other features are not taught in the prior art. Regarding claim 7, the prior art fails to disclose forward end overlap is the sum of an overlap margin for operation processing and the double of cell pitch size in cell to cell comparison inspection and said rear end overlap is the sum of an overlap margin for operation processing and the cell pitch size. These features in combination with other features are not taught in the prior art. Claims 2-6 and 8 depend on claim 1. Therefore are also allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory M. Desire whose telephone number is (571) 272-7449. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30-3:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eileen Lillis can be reached on (571) 272-6928. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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G.D.
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/Gregory M. Desire/
Acting Examiner of Art Unit 2600